

Curriculum Overview Term Four

The primary school curriculum is divided into seven Key Learning Areas (subjects).
Below is a brief outline of what we will be learning in each of these areas throughout Term 4.

Religious Education

Our first module is *Missioning Rite*. This module will challenge students to seek ways to bring about the Kingdom of God through living out the virtues such as compassion, love, and forgiveness. Their call to mission will require them to find ways to bring Christ's love to those who are least loved. They will be challenged to develop ideas and actions to continue the mission of Jesus in their own lives, in the broader community and global context.

The final module for the year is *Advent to Christmas*. For Advent- students will reflect on the symbolism of the Jesse Tree, which is significant in the story of Advent. They will also look at the hope created by prophets in times of trouble and that the message to stay alert and remain hopeful is still important to us today. For Christmas, students are invited to reflect on the birth of Jesus in light of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. Students will also explore their responsibilities as a member of a Christian family, particularly to the poor and marginalised during Advent and Christmas.

History

The Australian Colonies – Gold Fever

The unit "Gold Fever," provides students with the opportunity to learn about the impact of the gold rushes, the Eureka Stockade, internal exploration, migration, the advent of rail and the telegraph system on the Australian colonies. They explore the reasons for migration to Australia from Europe and Asia and contributions of migrant groups within the colony. The students also investigate the roles of significant individuals or groups in the shaping of our nation; migrant miners (both European and Chinese), entrepreneurs, artists, writers, political leaders, and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples. The unit works through the following inquiry questions:

What do we know about the lives of people in Australia's colonial past and how do we know?

How did an Australian colony develop over time and why?

How did colonial settlement change the environment?

Why did they come?

What were the significant events and who were the significant people who shaped Australian colonies?

The *historical skills* of *comprehension* (chronology, terms and concepts), *analysis and use of sources, perspectives and interpretations, empathetic understanding, research and explanation and communication* and the *historical concepts* of *continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathetic understanding, significance and contestability* are integrated into the lesson sequences.

English

This term, we will focus on both fiction and factual texts that are linked to our History unit on The Australian Colonies. These include 'The Night they Stormed Eureka' by Ruth Park and 'A Banner Bold' by Nadia Wheatley. We will also be reading from 'The School Magazine- Touchdown series' which delivers a rich array of texts, allowing capable readers to explore the exciting world of literature. Touchdown prepares readers as they transition into secondary school with a sophisticated and accessible range of texts supporting them on their English journey. We will be developing speaking and listening, grammar, punctuation and comprehension skills within this learning.



In Writing, we will also have a focus on Historical texts, both literary and visual. We will develop historical texts, particularly narratives and descriptions, which incorporate source material and use a range of communication forms (oral, graphic, written) and digital technologies.

Our English program includes a range of different group formats including; small group work, whole class work, partnerships, individual work and eLearning modules and extends across Modelled, Guided, Shared and Independent Reading and Writing activities.

Mathematics

Students will participate in the Mathematical strands individually, in groups and as a whole class through a variety of activities. We incorporate open-ended tasks and hard thinking to challenge all students at their point of need. Our studies this term will be centred on the following areas:

- Patterns and Algebra
- Fractions, Decimals and Percentages
- Length
- Area
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Addition
- Angles
- Volume and Capacity

Tuesday 30th October, 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Term 4! Can't believe we are here already... the last term of primary school!!! We hope the Year 6 students make the most of their final term at our beautiful school before they head off into the uncharted waters of high school! We are looking forward to a term full of hard work, but also a term of reflection and fun. We want our students to appreciate the time they have left together and make the most of every opportunity both in the classroom and within the school and parish community.

Blue Mountains/ Bathurst Camp

In Week 3, Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd November, Stage 3 will be going to the Blue Mountains and Bathurst to support their History unit about Australian Colonies. You have already received a note and many of you have returned the permission note and medication/emergency contact forms. We are looking forward to a wonderful final camp for the year.

Gala Days

Year 6 will be involved in two Gala Days this term. On Monday they had a Basketball Gala Day with Year 6 students from the other Northern Beaches DBB schools and in Week 4, Stage 3 will be attending a Hockey Gala Day. The note for this will be shared this week.

Year 6 Reflection Day

In Week 7, Friday, 29th November, Year 6 will be involved in a 'Reflection Day' when they reflect on their time at St Joseph's. You might like to start thinking about what you would like to say to your child in a special letter that is a Year 6 tradition at St Joseph's. We will give you more details about this later this term; however it is worth having some time to think ahead about what you'd like to say. It will be a personal letter from you to your child with a special message to mark the occasion of this special milestone in their lives - the end of their primary school years. They will read it at our Reflection Day and then respond to you. You will receive their response at the Graduation liturgy on Tuesday 18th of December.

Attendance and general wellbeing

Over the coming weeks, we will be compiling our assessment data from the last semester to write our Year 6 students' final reports. It is very important that they are at school in order to complete their learning and associated assessments. We appreciate your support in this area.

If you have any questions or concerns, as always, please don't hesitate to contact either of us. Thank you!!

Brenda Paul and Cara Appleton - Year 6 teachers

Creative Arts

Visual Arts:

Year Six students will create a variety of artworks and activities integrated with the topics learnt throughout the term.

Music, Dance & Drama: This term, Mrs Appleton will lead the students for Music. This will include learning and performing songs for our end of year **Christmas Carols Friday 14.12.18 @ 6pm** and **Graduation Mass Tuesday 18.12.18 @ 6pm**.

Home/Classroom Technology Supports



Students will be using **Google Classroom** at home and school. They can log onto this through the google classroom app or through google chrome using the username and password they log on with at school. Their user name is their **firstname.lastname** or **firstname.lastname@dbbstu.catholic.edu.au** depending on the device you are logging on from.

Students have their usernames and passwords for Studyladder, where they are able to revise concepts covered in class.

Homework

Homework began in Week 2 and will finish in Week 9 (none in Week 7- Wellbeing week). Generally, it will be given out on **Mondays** and should be returned for marking on **Fridays**; however, we will also give tasks that need to be handed in at different times. Please ensure that you sign your child's home diary each week.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE)

Students will participate in sports lessons led by our specialist **PE** teacher, Mrs Nicola Frost, on a Friday. They will also be involved in extra sport on a Thursday which includes 4 weeks of a Basketball clinic.

Our **Personal Development and Health** unit is **KEEPING SAFE ON THE ROAD & IN WATER**. This strand seeks to develop the ability and a commitment to act in ways that will protect self and others from harm. It emphasises respect for the human person and the development of a co-operative, caring society. Within this strand, students learn to respect the rights of others and to value acceptance, tolerance, justice and personal freedom. They learn that their own decisions have consequences for themselves and others.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

LIBRARY DAY- Tuesday

EXTRA SPORT- Thursday (Basketball Clinic Weeks 2, 4, 5 & 6)

SPORTS DAYS- Friday

MUSIC DAY- Friday